

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 IO-14 DRC-01 /118 W

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O 291451Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9937

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

RUEHPCEXAMEMBASSY MBABANE 1471

USUN NEW YORK 915

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS PRETORIA 2274

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, SF, RH, AO, MZ

SUBJECT: VORSTER AND SMITH SPEAK TO PRESS AFTER MEETING

REF: PRETORIA 2247 (NOTAL)

1. DURING PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING MAY 29, SOUTH AFRICA PRIME MINISTER VORSTER AND RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER SMITH INDICATED THEY WERE NOT CONCERNED ABOUT PROSPECT OF BLACK GOVERNMENTS IN ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE.

2. VORSTER SAID: "FROM OUR SIDE, OUR POSITION HAS ALWAYS BEEN CLEAR. WE DO NOT MEDDLE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF A NEIGHBORING COUNTRY. ALL WE ARE INTERESTED IN IS THAT THERE SHOULD BE GOOD RULE. IT IS NOT IN OUR INTERESTS THAT THERE SHOULD BE UNCLASSIFIED

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CHAOS IN ANY NEIGHBORING COUNTRY. WE WANT STABILITY AND

GOOD RULE...BUT IT IS NOT FOR US TO PRESCRIBE WHAT SORT OF
RULE THERE SHOULD BE. THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN OUR ATTITUDE."

3. SPEAKING IN SAME VEIN, SMITH STATED; "MY PHILOSOPHY IN
THIS REGARD HAS REMAINED CONSTANT. WE ARE PREPARED TO WORK
WITH ANYBODY PROVIDED WE ARE WORKING CONSTRUCTIVELY IN THE
INTERESTS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE DO NOT QUERY THE COLOR OF
THE PEOPLE CONCERNED. MY PHILOSOPHY IN THIS REGARD COINCIDES
WITH MR. VORSTER'S"

4. VORSTER SAID HE AND SMITH HAD HAD "VERY CANDID" DISCUSSIONS
ABOUT SOUTHERN AFRICA SITUATION. HOWEVER, NEITHER HE NOR
SMITH REVEALED SPECIFICS OF WHAT THEY TALKED ABOUT. IT IS
ASSUMED THAT PORTUGUESE COUP AND ITS AFTERMATH DOMINATED THEIR
DISCUSSIONS. ASKED WHETHER THEY WERE MORE OPTIMISTIC OR LESS
OPTIMISTIC ABOUT FUTURE OF SOUTHER AFRICA SINCE COUP IN
LISBON, VORSTER REPLIED, " IT IS TOO EARLY TO SAY."

5. IT IS BELIEVED THAT ONE REASON FOR SMITH'S VISIT TO PRETORIA
WAS TO INFORM VORSTER ABOUT THE STATUS OF HIS TALKS WITH
BISHOP MUZOREWA. ASKED ABOUT THESE TALKS, SMITH SAID HE WAS
NOT PREPARED TO GO INTO DETAILS.

6. VORSTER REFERRED TO SPECULATION THAT SA MIGHT BE CONTEMPLAT-
ING SENDING TROOPS INTO MOZAMBIQUE AS "ABSOLUTE NONSENSE."
HE SAID, " I DO NOT FORESEE THAT AT ALL."
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Message Attributes

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